



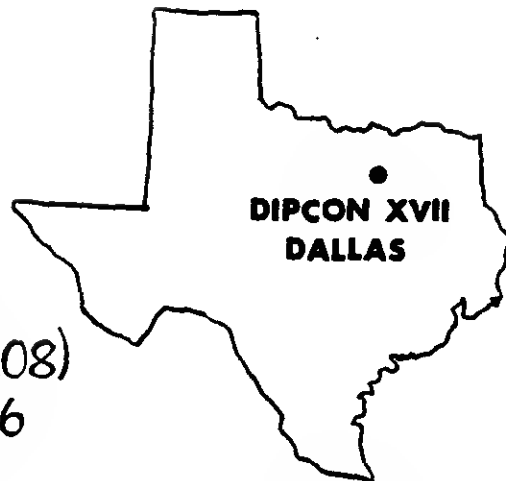
AUGUST 23 to 25, 1985
Host con: Dragonflight

November 15, 1984

ECTOPIA 1

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DIPCON ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

published by the Chairman, Pete Gaughan (817-633-3208)
7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas Texas 75236



This issue will be brief and late due to the complete and frankly unsurprising failure of my typewriter. Each letter must be individually spaced, and the right margin is gone.

Subscriptions to Ectopia will be on a SASE- or stamp-per-issue basis; send five 20¢ (US) stamps to get all the remaining bimonthly issues (Jan, Mar, May, Jul & Aug). Submissions on topics related to DipCon will be accepted continuously; up to half a page might be printed "as is" if it is camera-ready. ALL reader contributions should be sent to Pete first--ideas relevant to specific areas of responsibility will be forwarded from here.

Speaking of responsible, my emminent colleagues on the Committee are:

- Tournament GM Rod Walker--1273 Crest Dr, Encinitas CA 92024 (619-753-7657)
- Host Con Liason Terry Tallman--820 W Armour St, Seattle WA 98119 (206-285-4374)

Our duties are fairly easy to deduce. Rod will implement the Committee's decisions regarding scoring systems, timing, and awards; Terry will insure that Dragonflight's logistics accomodate us well; I'll try to understand and oversee all of it.

Those of you who want lots of details about Dragonflight will have to wait for January, when a real publicity campaign will begin here. For now, be aware of the dates and location--if your job needs a long advance notice for time off, here it is! Seattle U. is the site, right downtown. All con activity will take place in Campion Tower, and dorm space is right upstairs. What activity? Name it: boardgaming, miniatures, roleplaying, seminars, dealers, and other tournaments besides Dip. Terry reports that there is more open gaming than most other cons, and a common practice is for a dealer to offer a copy of a game to the winner.

Before I begin what is certain to be a long war over DipCon, a special note:

- Please carry out your discussion of DipCon topics with us, the Committee!

I realize that everybody spouts off in their own zines, but we three combined probably don't sub to even half the hobby's publications. IF WE AREN'T IN ON WHAT YOU THINK, WE CAN'T REPRESENT YOU! Send a copy to me so all three of us can consider your suggestion.

ECTOPIA

issue 1, page 2

Now, here is the status (very briefly) as I see it:

Fred Davis, in Bushwacker #157 and 158, has renewed his proposal to allow proxy (by-mail) voting on DipCon sites by the postal hobby at large, or by postal publishers and gms. Rod supports this, Terry is against it, and I'm undecided.

Several hobby members called for a secret scoring system at the last two DipCons. This has not been implemented, but we do need to decide whether the tournament should try to prevent "playing the system".

The current site rotation provides for four zones, with two eligible each year. Some would like to change this to provide fewer zones, thereby rotating the DipCon site to the East Coast more often. All three members of the Committee oppose any change in the current DipCon Charter on this score.

I do not have any information or files from Al Pearson on previous DipCons. This would include financial data. DipCon needs some firm guidelines on how to take in and spend out funds. Various proposals are floating about, but few have defined the purpose behind any DipCon surplus.

Current Financial Statement: The Committee is holding \$20 from DipCon XVI in Detroit. When Al sends along the records, a DipCon passbook account will be opened.

=====

ROTATION AND SITE SELECTION: Eligible for DipCon XIX in 1986 are Zones I & IV. This includes the Rocky Mountains, the Pacific Coast, Alaska and Hawaii, and the Eastern Seaboard. Strategicon of Anaheim (near L.A.) will probably bid for DipCon XIX. What I have heard from Eastern publishers indicates there will be at least two bids from Zone I.

As Chairman, I will offer this restriction (and will propose it as a formal amendment in Seattle): all site bids and amendments must be presented to the Chairman, or his appointed replacement who chairs the DipCon Society meeting, before the meeting, and with at least 25 copies. I will not have people voting on vague proposals, or proposals they have not been allowed to examine.

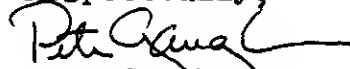
Other than this, I will try to remain neutral on the content of most proposals. It may gall me, but if I'm to run the meeting I will need to be very even-handed. I will offer my opinion, but I will abide by the decisions of the other Committee members and the hobby-at-large.

Procedural notes: any bids from Zones 2 and 3 may be offered, but votes for such bids count as half-votes. Remember that nothing precludes bids from the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta, B.C., or east of 84° W (or from Puerto Rico, for that matter).

A copy of the DipCon Society Charter, as amended through DipCon XVII, is available from the Committee Chairman for 50¢ (US stamps accepted). The deadline for submissions for Ectopia #2 is January 8, 1985.

Is there anything I've forgotten? Probably. I beg your indulgence for the certain errors of my inexperience, and don't be surprised if I try not to wade in with the big sluggers the next year. Maybe a little innocence is what this job needs.

Respectfully,


Pete Gaughan